

REMARKS

Claims 9 to 16 are now pending. Claims 9 to 16 have been amended to correct any minor informalities. No new matter has been added. Above, the amendments to the claims are shown by underlining (additions) and strikeout (deletions).

Applicants thank Examiner Wood for discussing the present application with Applicants' Attorney Linda Shudy (Reg. No. 47,084) via telephone on September 11, 2003. Examiner Wood identified two informalities – in claim 9 and in claim 13 – to be corrected. Specifically, in claim 9, the Examiner indicated that “it” was not proper. Further, in claim 13, the Examiner indicated that “NLO1 through NLOn” should be in parentheses, if kept in the claim.

Applicants have amended the claims 9 and 13 (as well as other claims) in accordance with the Examiner's request.

Thus, Applicants submit that all claims 9 to 16 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is believed that all claims 9 to 16 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the present application issue as early as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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